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involute leaves, absence of peristome and the neck shorter than the sporange.

ROSEMONT, N. J.

Microsphaera densissima (Schwein.) Peck.

BY GEO. F. ATKINSON.

This very interesting species first described by Schweinitz* as *Erysiphe densissima*, was collected by me at Ithaca, N. Y., August 7, 1893. There has been some uncertainty as to the identity of this species of Schweinitz, and probably for this reason Burrill omits a description of it in his latest work on the Erysipheae.† It is only mentioned in a discussion of its once supposed identity with a very different fungus, *Microsphaera calocladophora*,‡ Atkinson. In his article on the Erysipheae§ of Illinois, Burrill refers to it as follows: "*Microsphaera densissima* (Schw.) Peck, cannot be distinguished by its perithecia from the ordinary form on *Q. rubra*; but it presents some peculiarities of the mycelium, which if constant would entitle it to specific distinctness." The specimens agree perfectly, it seems to me, with Schweinitz' description, the patches of whitish mycelium being very dense with a long filamentous tomentum. The patches are beautifully orbicular, the prostrate threads lying close to the leaf and beautifully radiate from the center. The portions of the leaf on which the mycelium is seated are very much injured, so that they become yellowish and marked with numerous black spots on the lower side. It occurs at Ithaca on *Quercus tinctoria*. According to Burrill, Peck reports it on *Q. tinctoria*. In the 26th Report of the New York State Museum, p. 80, Peck reports it on fallen leaves. Several years ago while studying the species|| which occurs on *Q. aquatica* and *Q. laurifolia* in the Southern States

* Syn. Am. Bor. n. 2479.

† Ellis' North Am. Pyren. 29.

‡ Some Erysipheae from Carolina and Alabama. Jour. Elisha Mitchell Society

7: 13.

§ Bull. Ill. State Lab. Nat. Hist. 2: 426. 1887.

|| *Microsphaera calocladophora* Atkinson. See note ‡.

I was enabled through the kindness of Dr. Peck to examine a specimen of the fungus which he referred to this species. The specimens which I have collected at Ithaca agree perfectly with those collected by Dr. Peck. The fungus has occurred again at Ithaca during the summer of 1894, on the leaves of the same oak tree.

Fissidens hyalinus in Pennsylvania.

Fissidens hyalinus, according to Icones Muscorum and the Manual, is a very rare moss, since it has been found in only two places and is extinct in these. We have been able, however, to gather small quantities of it in four different places. We first met with it growing on the steep banks of a moist shaded ravine, along with *F. taxifolius*, and by searching similar ravines, and using *F. taxifolius* as a guide, we found it in three other places. Possibly then this little moss is more widely distributed than has been supposed, and has been simply overlooked on account of its insignificant appearance and the small quantity of it growing in one spot.

A more careful search might discover it in many parts of the country. The *F. taxifolius* may serve as a guide. Where this grows on the moist banks of shaded ravines, our little moss may be searched for. The best time for the search is from September to November, when it is in fruit; for its red peristome will betray its presence to a sharp eye held near the ground. It is a good plan to take up slices of earth where smaller plants of *F. taxifolius* grow somewhat loosely, and examine these with the aid of a good magnifying glass. The red peristome of *F. hyalinus*, if it is in fruit, is readily detected, and its leaf is easily recognized from the fact that it is without a costa, and its large cells give it a resemblance to the leaf of *Physcomitrium*.

This moss does not grow in thick and wide-spread mats which would discover it to the eye notwithstanding its small size; clusters of 20 to 50 plants may be found, but much more frequently it grows separately.

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